

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 RSC-01 DRC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 EUR-25

USSS-00 CPR-02 PM-07 SAM-01 NSC-07 OPR-02 PA-04 SY-04

PRS-01 A-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 IO-14 DODE-00

TRSE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /117 W

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O P 192256Z MAY 74 ZFF-6

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5576

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 985

SECTO 540

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (PRINCE FAHD), PFOR, SA

SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF PRINCE FAHD'S VISIT TO U.S.

REF: JIDDA 2752

FOR CHARGE FROM THE SECRETARY - DELIVER AT OOB

LONDON PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR AKINS

1. HAVE JUST RECEIVED MESSAGE CONTAINING PRESS
ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH WE ASSUME SAG HAS ALREADY ISSUED REGARDING
CANCELLATION OF FAHD VISIT. REGRET THAT YOU DID NOT INTERPOSE
OBJECTION TO CONTENTS OF ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH IN OUR JUDGMENT
LIKELY TO GIVE WRONG IMPRESSION IN THE AREA AS TO REASONS FOR
CANCELLATION OF FAHD VISIT.

2. WE THERFORE REQUEST THAT YOU SEE FAHD IMMEDIATELY
AND EXPLAIN THAT WE FEEL THE ANNOUNCEMENT ISSUED
YESTERDAY IS SUBJECT TO MISUNDERSTANDING. WE ASK
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THEREFORE THAT A FOLLOW-UP ANNOUNCEMENT BE MADE, IN WHATEVER

MANNER FAHD DEEMS APPROPRIATE, WHICH PLACES CANCELLATION OF HIS VISIT IN A MORE POSITIVE CONTEXT AND LESS SUSCEPTIBLE TO MISINTERPRETATION.

3. WE WOULD SUGGEST AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY SAG ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

4. AS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO POSTPONE THE OFFICIAL VISIT WHICH THE SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE FAHD BIN ABDUL AZIZ WAS PLANNING TO UNDERTAKE TO WASHINGTON, D. C., AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH OF JUMAD AL-AWAL, WHICH CORRESPONDS TO MAY 24, 1974.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS VISIT WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE MONTH. A NEW DATE WILL BE ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE. WHILE PRINCE FAHD WOULD HAVE WELCOMED HAVING HIS VISIT TAKE PLACE THIS WEEK, HE IS VERY PLEASED THAT THE CANCELLATION WAS MADE NECESSARY BECAUSE SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS DECIDED TO EXTEND HIS PERIOD OF TIME IN THE MIDDLE EAST DURING HIS CURRENT MISSION BECAUSE PROGRESS IS BEING MADE TOWARDS A DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL. THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN KEPT CLOSELY INFORMED OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S NEGOTIATIONS AND IS PLEASED THAT HE HAS REPORTED THAT NEGOTIATIONS ARE MAKING PROGRESS. WE HOPE THAT THEY WILL CULMINATE IN AN AGREEMENT.
KISSINGER

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